

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

OLC 77-5600/a

Office of Legislative Counsel

29 DEC 1977

Honorable Alan D. Cranston  
United States Senate  
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Cranston:

In the Director's absence, I am responding to your letter of 15 December 1977 requesting that your Associate Legislative Assistant, Susan Pitts, be allowed to retain the codeword clearances which she received while on the staff of the Senate Select Committee to Study Government Operations With Respect to Intelligence Activities.

You will recall the Director's meeting with you in early May 1977 regarding your request for such a clearance for Bill Jackson. At that time, he asked if you would accept his proposal that we attempt to satisfy your needs by briefing Bill as fully as possible without getting into areas of compartmented information and he offered to make a special effort on any occasion when Bill felt that he was hampered by a lack of such access. The Director added that if such instances arose frequently enough, he would be glad to review the situation with you again. In the meantime, he suggested that Bill call me whenever he needed such briefings. We continue to stand ready to assist Bill in this way.

The Director's position on the granting of access to compartmented information has not changed since May. President Carter and he continue to be concerned about the large number of people who have codeword clearances and they are actively studying measures which would reduce the number. He feels we must continue to follow existing policy that such access be granted only to selected committee staff members upon request of the committee chairman.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

*Congress*

We recognize the important responsibilities which you have assigned to Ms. Pitts. As with Bill Jackson, we believe we can fill most of your needs through Ms. Pitts without getting into compartmented information. Again, if you or they find that this is not the case, please let us know. I shall discuss this subject with the Director upon his return and will advise you promptly if there is any change in the above policy. Meanwhile, we hope that Ms. Pitts will contact me when we may be of assistance.

Sincerely,



George L. Cary  
Legislative Counsel

STAT

Distribution:

Original - Addressee

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SUBJECT: (Optional)

FROM:

Legislative Counsel

EXTENSION

NO.

DATE

30 December 1977

STAT

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

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Director

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Rather than to delay our response to Senator Cranston's request that another member of his staff (Susan Pitts) be allowed to have compartmented clearance, Jack Blake and I decided it best that I reply on your behalf, especially since I was present when you and the Senator discussed Bill Jackson's case. Please note that the letter states that I would discuss this matter with you on your return.

/s/  
George L. Cary

cc: A/DDCI

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

December 15, 1977

Admiral Stansfield Turner  
Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D. C. 20505

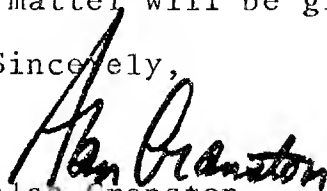
Dear Admiral Turner,

I am writing to request that Susan Pitts of my staff be permitted to retain the codeword clearances which she received while on the staff of the Senate Select Committee to Study Government Operations With Respect to Intelligence Activities. Susan serves as an Associate Legislative Assistant with specific responsibility for defense policy and arms control issues. I am particularly concerned that I have a member of my staff cleared above Top Secret because of my activity in the area of the SALT II negotiations and treaty. Susan is the most appropriate staff person to have that clearance.

I am a member of the Congressional Delegation to SALT II and have participated in those negotiations. As Senate Majority Whip, I participate in hearings conducted by the Senate Foreign Relations and Armed Services Committee on SALT II. To execute my responsibilities adequately I very much need a staff member able to participate in any discussion I might have or be able to convey information to me which may be classified above Top Secret.

Your assistance in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

  
Alan Cranston  
ALAN CRANSTON

Congress

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**EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT**  
Routing Slip

TO:		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1	DCI		✓		
2	DDA		✓ (Dir. Security)		
3	OLC	✓			
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Remarks:

To 3: Please prepare DCI response.

D/

19 Dec 77

Date

3637 (10-77)

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